

**MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE**  
**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Hon. Mary Ellen Barbera  
Chief Judge

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523  
**RE:** Senate Bill 627  
Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights – Repeal and Procedures  
for Discipline  
**DATE:** January 29, 2021  
**POSITION:** Oppose, as drafted

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The Maryland Judiciary opposes Senate Bill 627, as drafted. This bill repeals the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights and makes other provisions related to the discipline of law enforcement officers.

The Judiciary has no position on the policy aims of this legislation but is concerned with the language on page eight, lines 21 through 24. This language provides that "if a person fails to comply with a subpoena issued under this subsection, **on petition to the State Court Administrator**, a circuit court of competent jurisdiction may compel compliance with the subpoena." This language is also contained on page 12, lines 11 through 14. This language is unusual and problematic as any petition would need to be filed directly with the circuit court regarding a subpoena and not the State Court Administrator. The State Court Administrator does not accept circuit court filings and petitions.

cc. Hon. Jill Carter  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor